

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently amended) A composition, comprising a mixture, in particulate form, of:

- (a) titanium dioxide;
- (b) an organic resin which is a thermosetting resin; and
- (c) a zeolite,

wherein said organic resin is an epoxy resin, a polyester resin, a hybrid epoxy-polyester resin, a urethane resin or an acrylic resin, and

wherein said zeolite contains less than 9 percent water by weight as determined by heating at 800 °C for 1 hour.

16. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 15, wherein said zeolite is a zeolite A or a zeolite P.

17. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 15, wherein said zeolite contains less than 7 percent by weight water, as determined by heating at 800 °C for 1 hour.

18. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 15, wherein said zeolite has a water loss after heating at 105 °C for 4 hours of less than 2 percent by weight.

19. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 15, wherein said zeolite has a weight mean particle size in the range of 0.5 µm to 6.0 µm.

20. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 15, comprising from 10 to 40 percent by weight pigmentary titanium dioxide.
21. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 20, wherein the amount of said zeolite is up to 20 percent by weight of the composition.
22. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 15, comprising a colored pigment and from 2 to 20 weight percent pigmentary titanium dioxide.
23. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 22, wherein the amount of said zeolite is from 0.5 to 8 percent by weight of the composition.
24. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 15, wherein the particles of the composition have an average size in the range of 10 to 75  $\mu\text{m}$ .
25. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 15, wherein the particles of the composition have an average size in the range of 40 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .
26. (Cancelled).
27. (Currently amended) A composition, comprising a mixture, in particulate form, of:
  - (a) a zeolite; and
  - (b) an organic resin which is a thermosetting resin,  
wherein said resin is ~~a plasticized poly(vinyl chloride), a polyamide, a poly(vinylidene fluoride),~~ an epoxy resin, a polyester resin, a hybrid epoxy-polyester resin, a urethane resin or an acrylic resin; and  
wherein said zeolite contains less than 9 percent water by weight as determined by heating at 800 °C for 1 hour.
28. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 27, wherein said zeolite is a zeolite A or a zeolite P.

29. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 27, wherein said zeolite contains less than 7 percent by weight water, as determined by heating at 800 °C for 1 hour.

30. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 27, wherein said zeolite has a water loss after heating at 105 °C for 4 hours of less than 2 percent by weight.

31. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 27, wherein said zeolite has a weight mean particle size in the range of 0.5 µm to 6.0 µm.

32. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 27, further comprising from 10 to 40 percent by weight pigmentary titanium dioxide.

33. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 32, wherein the amount of said zeolite is up to 20 percent by weight of the composition.

34. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 27, further comprising a colored pigment and from 2 to 20 weight percent pigmentary titanium dioxide.

35. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 34, wherein the amount of said zeolite is from 0.5 to 8 percent by weight of the composition.

36. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 27, wherein the particles of the composition have an average size in the range of 10 to 75 µm.

37. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 27, wherein the particles of the composition have an average size in the range of 40 to 200 µm.

38. (Currently amended) A method for ~~preparing a~~ opacifying a powder coating composition comprising, forming a mixture of an organic resin, titanium dioxide and a zeolite,

~~wherein said resin is a plasticized poly(vinyl chloride), a polyamide, a poly(vinylidene fluoride), an epoxy resin, a polyester resin, a hybrid epoxy polyester resin, a urethane resin or an acrylic resin; and~~

wherein said zeolite contains less than 9 percent water by weight as determined by heating at 800 °C for 1 hour.

39. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein said resin is a plasticized poly(vinyl chloride), a polyamide, a poly(vinylidene fluoride), an epoxy resin, a polyester resin, a hybrid epoxy-polyester resin, a urethane resin or an acrylic resin.